

Applicants : NALDINI, et al.
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REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. Claims 4 and 6-18 are currently amended to eliminate the direct or indirect multiple dependency and to correct a clear grammatical error. Accordingly, there is no issue of new matters.

Applicants have amended the specification to claim priority of International Application No. PCT/IT04/000227, filed April 21, 2004, claiming the benefit of U.S. Serial No. 60/465,080, filed April 24, 2003.

Applicants have amended the specification to add SEQ. ID Nos. to the Nucleotide sequences contained in the specification.

Finally, Applicants have amended the specification to include the abstract for the filing of this National Phase Patent Application. Accordingly, there is no issue of new matters of the above amendments, and Applicants respectfully request the entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

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If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any fee is required, authorization is given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1891.

Respectfully submitted,

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